



Greenbelt Arts Center show, p.9



Vigil for Missing Teacher, p.7

County Schools Introduce Metal Detectors and Clear Backpacks

by Ruby Roane

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) will be introducing new security measures in middle and high schools for the 2023-2024 school year. Weapon detection systems and clear backpack policies are the county's effort to provide a more secure learning environment for its students and a safer workplace for teachers and staff in the wake of several guns being found on school property over the last year.

Metal Detectors

The unveiling of these detectors follows the appointment of Millard House II, the new superintendent for PGCPS, the announcement coming 10 days after he took office. "The message here is to ensure that our community knows and understands that we want the safest environment possible. We want to modify and pivot as needed to make certain that we are making the necessary decisions that make sense around school safety," says House.

The new detectors are devel-



PHOTO BY JENNI POMPI

Oscar Gibson, a junior at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, wears a mandated clear backpack.

oped by CEIA USA, the creator of most TSA airport checkpoint detectors. Schools will use portable detection towers, powered by batteries and operable through mobile devices. "The CEIA metal

See **SCHOOLS**, page 6

Change Now Contemplated By New Deal Café and Co-op

by Cathie Meetre

The quarterly open board meeting of the New Deal Café on August 28 was attended by a crowd that filled much of the available seating in the Café's back room. It was a lively group, not slow to voice its opinions or to ask questions.

Much of the meeting revolved around the possibility that the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket (Co-op) would no longer operate the food and beverage service at the New Deal Café (NDC) as it has done since the summer of 2021. NDC, also a cooperative, last week issued an invitation to other vendors to apply to take over the operation. Reached for comment after the meeting, Co-op Manager Dan Gillotte said, "We'd been discussing since early summer that NDC should proactively be planning for a potential vendor change. (The) NDC board made clear to me (and the) Co-op board and management that they very much wanted us to continue but we all felt it prudent for them to begin a process for a potential vendor search."

To understand the financial position, it is necessary to consider



PHOTO COURTESY NEW DEAL CAFE

Bill Jones, chair of the Co-op Board of Directors, speaks to a full house at the New Deal Café membership meeting on Monday evening.

the agreement made between the NDC and the Co-op. Co-op Treasurer Bill Jones explained that the Co-op was responsible for the operation of the Café as a business – meaning the Co-op would manage food and beverage service, pay the rent and staff, maintain the building and generally keep the place going – much like it does at the gro-

cery store itself. Profits would be shared with NDC in an agreed upon ratio. But, a share of zero is zero. When the original NDC and Co-op contract expired in June this year, it was extended to December 2023 with the proviso that NDC would pick up the rent.

As Gillotte explained later,

See **NEW DEAL**, page 12

Election 2023

Ric Gordon Files for Council

Incumbent Councilmember Ric Gordon is once again the first to file for the Greenbelt City Council. His nomination form has been certified by City Clerk Bonita Anderson. Candidate biographies are prepared by the candidates and will be published as they are received by the paper from certified candidates.

Ric Gordon

Ric Gordon was born Brandon Ricardo Gordon in Prince George's County on September 19, 1982, and attended Prince George's County Public Schools. Gordon graduated from Morris College in 2004 obtaining his bachelor's degree in political science and pre-law, a minor in psychology and a master's degree in public administration. Gordon has served in various organizations throughout his time in Greenbelt. He was the founder and former chair of Greenbelt Voices Rising, former vice chair of the city's Park and Recreation Advisory Board and former vice president of GATe TV. During Gordon's first two years on council, he worked with multiple organizations by holding voter registration and community rallies, organizing food basket/clothes giveaways and collecting holiday and school supplies for Greenbelt students. He started the Greenbelt Pride Festival in 2022 and added the Pride Parade in 2023.

Gordon was the first Greenbelt councilmember and first African American to serve as State Chair of the Young Municipal Leaders under the Maryland Municipal League. Gordon currently serves as an at-large executive board member with Prince George's County Municipal Association where he was appointed to serve on the county tax differential taskforce.

Gordon has been honored for his community work in Greenbelt with citations and special letters by Delegate Alonzo Washington,

See **GORDON**, page 10



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

Ric Gordon

Bands, Booths, Bikes, Bingo, Burgers: It Must be Labor Day

by Cathie Meetre

The Parade itself arrives on Labor Day Monday morning. It sashays down Crescent Road from Greenhill to Southway, spits and polishes off with the police color guard, scoops up a pipe and drum corps, flourishes a frenzy of fire trucks, screams some sirens and projects a perfect perambulation of politicians – it's all a hometown could hope for. But the Parade is just the jewel in a more expansive crown.

For the Athletic

Sunday, the day before the Parade, begins for cyclists with a Tour de Greenbelt starting at 9 a.m. at the New Deal Café. In two stages, it's led by Greenbelt's

own bike-friendly pair, Mayor Emmett Jordan and Councilmember Kristen Weaver, with Laurie and Jeff Lemieux of Proteus Bicycles, who though unelected, have two successive Ridge Road addresses to confirm their Greenbelt pedigree. The first stage leaves at 9 a.m. to Greenbelt Station and back and the second at 10 a.m. goes on a round trip to Schrom Hills Park. Note: this

unsupported ride may not be suitable for all ages.

For the Kids

Also on Sunday, a spate of kiddie activities begins at Braden Field at 10 a.m. with a classic egg-and-spoon race and the eternally ungainly sack race – followed by a water relay, sure to be extremely soggy and

See **FESTIVAL**, page 8

What Goes On

Monday, September 4
Labor Day, City Offices Closed
Wednesday, September 6
7:30 p.m., City Council Worksession: Tribesys Process Presentation, Municipal Building

See the meetings calendar on page 5 or visit greenbeltmd.gov for more information.



PHOTO BY SHARON NATOLI

The 40+ Double Dutch team performs at the Greenbelt Labor Day Parade on September 5, 2022. The numbers on the back of their shirts are their ages and their motto is "Proud to be over 40."

Letters to the Editor

Well Wishes to All Our County Schools

Within Prince George’s County the public school system (PGCPS) is by far the largest education entity. Parents are becoming more active and involved, attending school board and PTSA meetings. They are monitoring the schools’ curriculum more and what’s being taught or introduced in the classroom.

Student enrollment is increasing in schools other than public schools around the nation. Parents do so under the banner of school choice. They feel their children are more academically challenged and have access to smaller class sizes and more individualized instruction in nonpublic schools. Some feel public schools focus too much on social and self-esteem issues at the expense of math, science, reading, writing, foreign languages. Some have had their children subjected to

harassment, bullying, drugs or gang type violence.

I have several neighbor families who send their children to private and charter schools. The challenge for many though is the affordability issue of the funds needed for alternative schooling.

As a former and retired school teacher from PGCPS I experienced many positive aspects and worked alongside dedicated and committed staff and students. I graduated from High Point High School.

Increasingly I see the need for parents, families to have choices for their children’s education and future. As students begin the new school year, let’s wish them all much learning and academic success, whether they attend a public school, private or independent school, charter school, religious or faith-based school, special needs academy, home schooling or virtual learning venue.

Robert Snyder



- News Review, August 30, 2018

Greenbelt is Great!

On Screen at Old Greenbelt Theatre

The Adults

Eric (Michael Cera) returns home for a short visit and finds himself caught between reuniting with his sisters and chasing a victory with his old poker group. As the trip extends, he finds it increasingly difficult to avoid confrontations and revelations as his carefully constructed façade of his adulthood gives way to old childhood conflicts. While Maggie (Sophia Lillis) attempts to recreate the intimate world the three of them once shared, Eric and Rachel (Hannah Gross) are faced with the divide between their childhood selves and the adults they are now.

A Compassionate Spy

A gripping real-life spy thriller about controversial Manhattan Project physicist Ted Hall, who infamously provided nuclear secrets to the Soviet Union, the film is told through the perspective of his loving wife Joan, who protected his secret for decades. Recruited in 1944 as an 18-year-old Harvard undergraduate to help Robert Oppenheimer and his team create a bomb, Hall was the youngest physicist on the Manhattan Project, and didn’t share his colleagues’ elation after the successful detonation of the world’s first atomic bomb. Concerned that a U.S. post-war monopoly on such a powerful weapon could lead to nuclear catastrophe, Hall began passing key information about the bomb’s construction to the Soviet Union. After the war, he met, fell in love with and married Joan, a fellow student with whom he shared a passion for classical music and socialist causes – and the explosive secret of his espionage. The pair raised a family while living under a cloud of suspicion and years of FBI surveillance and intimidation. The story reveals the twists and turns of this real-life spy story, its profound impact on nuclear history and the couple’s remarkable love and life together during more than 50 years of marriage.

Golda

Golda is a ticking-clock thriller set during the tense 19 days of the Yom Kippur War in 1973. Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir (Helen Mirren), faced with the potential of Israel’s complete destruction, must navigate overwhelming odds, a skeptical cabinet and a complex relationship with U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger (Liev Schreiber), with millions of lives in the balance. Her tough leadership and compassion would ultimately decide the fate of her nation and leave her with a controversial legacy around the world.

Casablanca

In this classic World War II film, Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart), who owns a nightclub in Casablanca, discovers his old flame Ilsa (Ingrid Bergman) is in town with her husband, Victor Laszlo (Paul Henreid). Laszlo is a famed rebel, and with Germans on his tail, Ilsa knows Rick can help them get out of the country.

Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org

Members Always \$6.50!
Member kids are always FREE!

Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student/Military \$8

All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
SEPTEMBER 1st - 7th

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

The Adults (R) (CC) (DVS)
(2023) (91 mins)

Fri. 7:45 PM
Sat. 7:00 PM
Sun. 11:45 AM
Mon. 4:15 PM in Screen 2
Tues. 7:30 PM
Wed. 7:30 PM
Thurs. 5:45 PM

A Compassionate Spy (NR)
(CC) (DVS) (2023) (101 mins)

Fri. 5:15 PM
Mon. 4:00 PM
Tues. 5:00 PM

Casablanca
(NR) (1942) (125 mins)
Free Monday Matinee!
Mon. 1:00 PM
Thurs. 8:00 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

Golda (PG-13) (CC) (DVS)
(2023) (110 mins)

Fri. 5:00 PM, 7:30 PM
Sat. 5:00 PM
Sun. 2:30 PM (OC)
Mon. 1:30 PM
Tues. 7:15 PM
Wed. 7:15 PM
Thurs. 6:00 PM

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.

Greenbelt News Review

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:
- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.

Community Events



Museum Hosts Labor Day Festival Events

On Sunday, September 3, starting at 9 a.m., the Museum will be the starting point for a Bricks and Blocks Walking Tour. This tour will highlight historic Greenbelt's domestic architecture, the "brick and block" homes that make up the majority of the original planned community. The guide will show the walkers how to "read" the brick and block homes. The tour will feature spots of historic interest that have not been featured on previous walking tours.

The Bricks and Blocks tour leaves from the Greenbelt Museum at 10-B Crescent Road and takes approximately two hours, including the Museum's orientation film. Additionally, guests will have the opportunity to visit the interior of the Museum's historic home after the walking tour. Pre-registration is required via Eventbrite.

Dress for walking outdoors. Space is limited to 12 participants. The tours will not be conducted in thunder/lightning storms or if the temperature is above 95 degrees.

House Tours

The Museum house will open for short Historic House tours in conjunction with the Retro Town Fair, Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. and Monday right after the parade from noon to 2 p.m. The regular, longer format tours will not be offered, but visitors can take a peek to see how a typical Greenbelt family would have lived in the late 1930s to the early 1950s. Free, no registration required.



Calling All Pets

Floppiest ears? Most cuddly? Most energetic? What makes your pet special? Bring your dog, cat, hamster, rabbit, snake or other pet to the Labor Day Festival's Children and Teen Pet Show on Saturday, September 2 at 9:30 a.m. on the Community Center lawn. Rain or shine. Sponsored by Girl Scout Troop 23007.

Retro Town Fair at the Museum

The Retro Town Fair on Sunday, September 3, is much like those the earliest Greenbelters enjoyed starting in 1939. Ribbons will be awarded for the best entries in a number of categories including flowers, vegetables, baked goods, canned goods and needlework/sewing. Entries will be accepted from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and the winners displayed from 1 to 4 p.m. All items must be picked up between 4 and 5 p.m. Questions can be sent to education@greenbeltmuseum.org.

All Toastmasters May March in the Parade



PHOTO BY JAN JACKSON

A group of Toastmasters in the 2012 Greenbelt Labor Day Parade

Longtime Greenbelt Toastmaster David Alexander is once again inviting Toastmaster members from any club to march in the Greenbelt Labor Day Parade.

For those Toastmaster folks who love a parade and better still, would like to march in one, mark Monday morning, September 4 on the calendar. For details of when and where to meet and what to do, email David at alexa0838@gmail.com



August 25 – September 9
8pm Fridays and Saturdays,
2pm Sunday August 27,
audience masks required only
2pm Sunday September 3

www.rudemechanicals.com
www.greenbeltartscenter.org





Greenbelt Access Television

Sept. 2, Sat - Sept. 8, Fri
Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)
Streaming on www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

THIS WEEK on GATe • Your Community Access Station

Featured Film (9am, 3pm, and 8pm)
Fear and Desire (1952)
Stanley Kubrick's directorial debut film is revered for its revolutionary visual storytelling and philosophies on the toll war takes on humankind.

New This Month
Employ Prince George's Workforce Development Business Conference
Featured speaker Walter Simmons, of Employ Prince George's, addresses employment rates in the county, helpful tools for people seeking employment, and why we should be investing in the youth.

All this and more on the GATe channel this week! Check greenbeltaccessstv.org for the full broadcast schedule, and visit **Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube** for new video productions.

Build Giant Puppets For the Wild Rumpus



PHOTO BY CHERYL CAPEZUTI

Members of Cheryl Capezuti's Giant Puppet Dance Club at the Falk Lab School

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program invites community members ages 12 to adult to sign up for a free giant puppet workshop on Sunday, September 17. Space is limited. The workshop will be held on the ground floor east space of the Community Center. Those age 8 to 12 may also participate if assisted by an adult.

Participants will help create tall, backpack-mounted creatures. The puppets will rally and dance at the Wild Rumpus Halloween celebration on Friday, October 27, after school. Sign up online: <https://bit.ly/44e0V3R>.

City of Greenbelt arts programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council. For more program information, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts.

Greenbelt Violinist In Free Concert, Sept. 6

Greenbelt violinist Natalie Rose Kress will give a free concert with the Quartet Salonières and clarinetist Dominic Giardino on Wednesday, September 6 at 7 p.m. They will perform the Mozart Clarinet Quintet on period instruments. The concert is sponsored by College Park Arts Exchange and will take place at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road, College Park. There will be a small wine and cheese reception after the concert.

MiniGolf Raises Funds For Kohn Scholarship

On Sunday, September 10, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Dena Kohn Theatre Lab Scholarship Fund will hold a miniature golf event as a fundraiser and celebration of the life of lifelong Greenbelter Dena Kohn, who died just before her 23rd birthday. Each year, her life and spirit of giving are celebrated and commemorated by raising money for the Dena Kohn Memorial Scholarship Fund. The fund provides scholarships each summer to teenagers in financial need to participate in The Theatre Lab's Musical Theatre Institute for teens.

The event will be held at Rocky Gorge Four Seasons Golf Fairway on U.S. Route 29 and Old Columbia Road in Laurel. Attendees can buy baked goods from a Greenbelt baker, original pottery by a Greenbelt potter and photography from an award-winning Greenbelt photographer at the fundraising event.

For questions, contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at 301-345-8755 or spreadruak@gmail.com.

Golden Age Club September Plans

Golden Age Club members will be having a bake sale on Labor Day Saturday morning on the ramp to the Co-op Supermarket. Bake some cookies or other goodies – proceeds go to a scholarship to Camp Pine Tree. Come by and buy also.

Weekly meetings are held on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in the second-floor meeting room of the Community Center.

This month, Dr. Toren Grant, of Nova Care Rehabilitation (physical therapy), will speak on balance, stiffness and simple exercises for seniors.

Sept. 2 – bake sale outside the Co-op, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Sept. 6 – business meeting
Sept. 13 – Dr. Grant, simple exercises
Sept. 20 – birthday celebration
Sept. 27 – BINGO

Bat Walk in Greenbelt Forest Preserve

The 20th Anniversary of the Preserve continues. Come take a Bat Walk on Friday, September 8. Join biologist Sarah Witcher to identify local bat species and learn about their habits and habitat. Enjoy this rare opportunity for a guided hike at dusk and check out the crepuscular creatures that call Greenbelt Forest home. By the end of this walk, participants will appreciate the importance of bats and better understand the threats to their survival.

Meet at Northway Fields (end of Northway) at 7:30 p.m. for a walk in the forest. The path will have roots, possible mud, possible obstacles to climb over and possible ticks. Dress appropriately with sturdy shoes.


All are welcome, ages 7 to 70+. Reservations are not required but letting us know you are coming allows us to assure materials for all. Contact suzanbwild@gmail.com or 443-388-2961. Rain date is Friday, September 15.

GREa Meets Sept. 5

The Greenbelt Racial Equity Alliance (GREa) will hold a hybrid meeting on Tuesday, September 5 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Agenda topics include boosting participation in the upcoming city council election and discussion of future directions for GREa. In-person participants will gather in the Community Center, Room 112 (Gallery Room). Virtual participants will meet by Zoom (call-in option available); visit the GREa website at greenbeltraciaequity.org/events for access information.

Français, s'il vous plaît: French at the Café

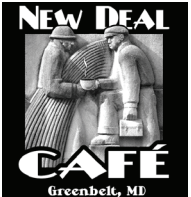
A French conversation group meets at the New Deal Café on Thursdays at 6 p.m. All levels and ages welcome.



This Week at the New Deal Café

SUPPORT Greenbelt's only venue with BOTH dinner AND a show!

RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.

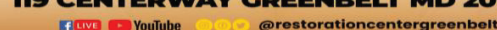
Nourished by the Greenbelt Co-op

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD
Hours: Monday – Thursday 8am – 9pm; Friday/Saturday 8am – midnight; Sunday 9am – 9pm

TH 8/31	FRI 9/01	SAT 9/02	SUN 9/03
Jelly Roll Mortals 7-9pm Virtuosic playing with a low-key sense of humor	PIANO STYLINGS OF PETER REPPERT, 6-7:30P Chaotic Behavior 8-11pm High-energy, original 5-piece rock band	Ruthie and the Wranglers 8-11pm An NDC fav; rockin' roots music at its best!	THIS COULD GO BOOM!* 5:30-8pm The best in local music from marginalized and underrepresented artists. An incredible showcase!

MON 9/04	TUES 9/05	WED 9/06	TH 9/07	MON - FRI
LABOR DAY PARADE, 10am* DC LABOR CHORUS* 2-4pm MONDAY MAUVENESS KARAOKE NIGHT* 6-9pm	S.A.W. Open Mic w/ Lynn Hollyfield 6:30-9:30pm Featured act from 8-8:30pm	The Campfire Sessions 7-9pm A monthly listening room. Get to know the songwriters	Wolf's Blues Show and Sit-In Jam 6:30-10pm A big, bodacious boogie blues jam. You never know who will show up!	Happy Hour 4-7pm \$1.00 off beer and wine

Join or renew your membership. Go to www.newdealcafe.com, click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW!"
*For more information on these and other events, visit the **NDC CALENDAR** page on our website.
FUNDING FOR THESE ADS COURTESY OF A GENEROUS DONOR.





City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 4 - 8

Monday, September 4, **NO MEETING - LABOR DAY**

Tuesday, September 5 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES**, *On the Agenda: Review Past Meeting Minutes, Discuss Possible Extra Tree Canopy Grant Application Period, Discuss Significant Tree Walk for the Fall Fest in 2023*

Tuesday, September 5 at 7 pm, **ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, *On the Agenda: Approve July Minutes, Marketing, Grant-Writing, Resources for Artists (MSAC, PGAHC, Panel Discussion by Local Artists), October Art Open House*

Wednesday, September 6 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - TRIBESY PROCESS PRESENTATION**

Thursday, September 7 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD**, *On the Agenda: Approval of June 14 Minutes, Review Final Site and Building Plans for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Staff Updates*

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

BUDDY ATTICK PARK MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

The City of Greenbelt would like your participation to help determine priorities for improvements to Buddy Attick Park. Your input will help guide City staff in planning and managing the park well into the future. This survey should take approximately 5 minutes to complete.



To take the survey, scan the QR code to the right or visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/buddyattickpark>.

SURVEY LINK

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION ELECTION CLERKS NEEDED

The City of Greenbelt Board of Elections is seeking several residents who would be willing to serve as election officials on November 7, 2023, from 6 am until about 9 pm. Clerks must also attend a training session on November 6 from 7 pm until about 9 pm.

This is a rewarding experience for anyone who is interested in the political process and would like to play an active role in the local election. There is a stipend of \$175 plus a training fee of \$25.

There may also be a need for additional clerks to count mail-in and early voting ballots. This job would entail working for three to four hours in the late afternoon/early evening of November 7. No preliminary training is necessary. The pay for mail-in and early voting ballot clerks is \$50.

Application forms are available on City's website www.greenbeltmd.gov and at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, by APPOINTMENT ONLY. The deadline to apply is September 29, 2023.

For further information, call or e-mail Bonita Anderson, City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000 or elections@greenbeltmd.gov.

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR CITY ELECTION OCTOBER 9, 2023

Greenbelt residents are reminded that to participate in the 2023 City Council election—whether as a voter, a candidate for City Council, or a signer of a petition for a candidate—you must be qualified to vote in Prince George's County.

To register, you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States of America
- Be at least 16 years of age
- Be domiciled within the corporate limits of the City of Greenbelt as of the date of registration
- Not have been convicted of a felony, or if you have, you have completed serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, including any term of parole or probation for the conviction
- Not be under guardianship for mental disability

VOTER REGISTRATION

For information about registering to vote in Prince George's County, contact the County Board of Elections at 301-430-8020 or visit www.elections.state.md.us. Forms for voter registration and address and name change are available on the city website, www.greenbeltmd.gov.

All forms must be received by the County Board of Elections in Upper Marlboro **no later than 4:30 pm, Monday, October 9.**

For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson, City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or elections@greenbeltmd.gov.

If you are already registered to vote in Prince George's County but have moved or changed your name since the last election, you must complete an application to have this information changed. **This can also be done online at www.elections.state.md.us.

CURRENT FREE CARES PROGRAMS

EMERGENCY DIAPER PROGRAM

Supporting Greenbelt families in need of diapers. Greenbelt residents only, you must sign-up each month.
To register: <https://forms.gle/xMhpKLT765xGdN2W56>.
Questions? Call (240) 542-2019.

NURSING PROGRAM

Starts in mid September
Services include bathing assistance, medication management, and more. Contact Sharon Johnson at (240) 542-2029 or sjohnson@greenbeltmd.gov.

MY GROCERIES TO GO

Limited slots available. Participants 60+ will receive a monthly grocery box. Contact Brendy at (240) 424-0302 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

POWERFUL TOOLS FOR CAREGIVERS

Session 7 - September 19 - October 31
This 6-week class series helps caregivers take better care of themselves while caring for a friend or relative.

HELP LOWERING HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES

Need help lowering household expenses? Call or email to see if you qualify to apply for Energy or Water Assistance, Renters', Homeowners', Senior or Home Modification Tax Credit programs. We will help you complete the program applications and mail them off.
Contact Dominique Kheav dkheav@greenbeltmd.gov or (301) 615-1225.

STRESS SURFING

Three weekly session programs focus on the science of stress and stress management techniques that can be utilized in daily life to enhance overall well-being. To register, <https://forms.gle/K1ipaZusd5zPdW1L7> or call (240)424-0302.

PEACE PROGRAM

The PEACE program is geared toward helping individuals with chronic pain and their caregivers by using evidence-based strategies to self-manage pain that can be supplemental to existing prescribed pain management treatment received from healthcare professionals. To register, <https://forms.gle/qDGjWqBryUPeyNFL8> or call (240) 424-0302.

JAMES HENDERSON GENERATIONAL LEGACY PLANNING

The presentation will allow the audience to understand what the generational transfer of assets, values, and goals is, which is not a natural process but requires planning. The presentation will also discuss (1) defining family culture, (2) setting family goals, (3) learning key financial concepts, and (4) preparing beneficiaries for their inheritance.
To register: [bit.ly/3DKJKfx](https://forms.gle/bit.ly/3DKJKfx) or call (240) 424-0302.

DEALING WITH BEHAVIORAL ISSUES OF DEMENTIA SEMINAR

You will learn to identify many of the underlying causes of dementia-related behaviors. Acquire the tools needed to respond in ways that are helpful. Develop a plan to address the issues.
To register: [bit.ly/3OJxT7V](https://forms.gle/bit.ly/3OJxT7V) or call (240) 424-0302.

STAGING COGNITIVE DECLINE

Join us as we look into the different staging scales and what this means we can expect (or not expect!). What stage is my loved one at? Understanding more about the stages of Alzheimer's disease and what to expect can help us provide better support to meet our loved ones' needs. To register: [bit.ly/440Z4j1](https://forms.gle/bit.ly/440Z4j1) or call (240) 424-0302.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed on Monday, September 4, in observance of Labor Day.
THE GREENBELT CONNECTION WILL NOT BE OPERATING.

REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Week of September 4
Monday Route – Collected Tuesday
Tuesday Route – Collected Wednesday
Wednesday Route – Collected Thursday
Thursday Route – Collected Friday

There will be no appliance, odd metals, hard plastics, or yard waste collections on Friday, September 8.

RECREATION FALL ACTIVITY GUIDE IS LIVE

www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION Dates & Deadlines for 2023 City Council Elections

First day to receive papers and file nomination petition	8/21
Last day to file nomination petition (5 pm)	9/26
Date of drawing for placement on ballot (7:30 pm)	9/26
First interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12 pm)	9/29
First day to send out mail-in ballots	10/06
Last day to register to vote (must be received by 4:30 pm in Upper Marlboro)	10/09
Second interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12 pm)	10/27
Early voting begins	11/04
Training session for election judges and clerks	11/06
Election (7 am - 8 pm)	11/07
Mail-in ballots must be received (by 6 pm)	11/07
Final Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (12 pm)	11/10
Charter meeting for swearing-in (7:30 pm)	11/13

For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson , City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.



GREENBELT LITTLES PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

Does your pre-school aged child enjoy helping you cook, like exploring, and love to learn? Then check out Greenbelt Recreation's preschool program Greenbelt Littles Preschool.

Greenbelt Littles Preschool is a licensed traditional preschool program that focuses on social development, fine and gross motor skills, listening, and following instructions. Greenbelt Littles has a heavy emphasis on learning in a fun way! We offer preschool our program Monday through Friday at the Youth Center. Financial aid is available for eligible Greenbelt residents.

For more information, please visit our Virtual Recreation Center online at www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation or give us a call at (301) 397-2200.

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION Nominations for 2023 Regular City Election

In accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter, a regular election will be held in the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, to elect the seven members of the City Council.

Any qualified voter of the City may be nominated for the office of Member of Council upon filing a nomination petition with the City Clerk (signed by not fewer than 50 Greenbelt resident voters), a written acceptance of the nomination, and other statements that are required by the City Charter or by law. Required forms and information are available at 25 Crescent Road, beginning Monday, August 21, from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm.

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM MONDAY, AUGUST 21 THROUGH TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023.

For additional information, call Bonita Anderson, City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000, or e-mail banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

CHANGES TO FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION!

To better serve our community, we are transitioning to Service Insights, a paperless intake system. **You will need to have a card in order to participate in future Produce Distribution, starting September 21, 2023.**

How do you get a card? Attend ONE of the events below to pick up your card:

August 29, 2023, 10 am - 3 pm.
Spring Hill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane

September 6, 2023, 12 - 6 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd, Ground Floor East

September 7, 2023, 10 am - 3 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd, Ground Floor East

School News



Members of the Stribling family indicate their birth order on the first day of school. Ayanna Pendleton returns to high school, Samuel and Samiya Stribling start their first year of middle school in 6th grade and Sanaa Stribling heads to 4th grade.

PHOTO BY LAWANN STRIBLING

Farewell to SchoolMax, PGCPs Adopts Synergy



by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) will bid a (long) farewell to their Student Information System (SIS) of 15 years, SchoolMax. At the August 24 Board of Education meeting, the board voted to approve the award of a SIS contract to Edupoint for their system, Synergy.

SchoolMax is clunky and far from intuitive to the uninitiated. Few parents, students or teachers are likely to miss it. Superintendent Millard House II declared at the meeting, “It is well beyond time for us to make this change.”

The change will involve a multiyear implementation plan, with Dr. Andrew Zuckerman, chief information and technology officer, noting that implementation typically takes 12 to 24 months. They need a “long runway,” he told board members, including time for training staff and parents. The goal is to have Synergy set up and running by next school year, while still maintaining SchoolMax alongside it.

Budget Implications

Board Member Kenneth Harris II, District 7, queried the cost and what he described as an increase of close to \$1 million between year one and year two. Year one is budgeted for a cost of \$1,746,620 and year two at \$2,637,893. The difference in those years is that year one includes the cost for implementation and year two includes operational costs, too, explained Zuckerman. PGCPS will also be paying for SchoolMax during years one and two, on top of what they’re paying for Synergy, noted Harris.

Zuckerman said that School-

Max is now 15 years old, the product is aging out, support is sunsetting, and the new system will be more intuitive, he told Harris and the board. Asked by Harris if Synergy is more expensive, Zuckerman said it is, stating that PGCPS currently pays less than \$1 million a year for SchoolMax. The five-year budget document for Synergy shows that it is expected to cost, on average, \$2.5 million to over \$2.6 million a year. “A modern-day student information system is just going to be more dollars,” said Zuckerman, adding that PGCPS will be paying what other school districts using Synergy pay. Synergy is currently used by Montgomery County Public Schools, Howard County Public Schools, Washington County Public Schools and Charles County Public Schools.

Funding

The funding of \$4.5 million over the first two years will come from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund. It will cover the initial purchase for Fiscal Year 2024 (year one), the annual license renewal for Fiscal Year 2025 (year two), plus start-up implementation costs such as data migration, integration and training during the first two years. “For year three, PGCPS will fully transition to the new SIS, and funds previously used to pay for SchoolMax will be reallocated inside the operating budget to begin paying for the new system,” said the Board Action Summary. It did not mention how the considerable difference in cost between Synergy and SchoolMax would be made up or found in the budget.

SCHOOLS continued from page 1

detectors are used for compliance with high-security standards and allow easy access at both medium and high transfer rates,” according to the CEIA brochure. They also “allow extreme transit flow or throughput and no nuisance alarms.” An informational video about the machines posted on PGCPS’ YouTube channel on the first day of school shows students walking through the Open Gate system without removing their backpacks. However, it instructs students that they should have their laptops out when they arrive on campus, to hand to a staff member before walking through. “It will also identify other contraband items that are not allowed on school property,” states the video. “All students and all visitors to campus during regular school hours will be required to enter through the Open Gate System and are subject to search,” it announces.

An initial contract suggests 31 systems will cost the school district nearly \$523,000. That does include \$2,500 in training, but maintenance is not specified and PGCPS hasn’t announced its plans or the cost implications for staffing the machines. Their instructional video shows multiple staff at the ready to take and return laptops, monitor the detection light and conduct searches if the light turns red.

The detectors are expected to make their way to all public high schools in the county over the course of the year. “We have listened to our community and what we are going to do is start specifically with our high schools, not all high schools, but we will be starting with a group in terms of security enhancements,” says House. Initial high schools include Oxon Hill, Central, Bowie, High Point, Suitland and Dr. Henry A. Wise.

Heightened Safety

The decision to implement these security measures was strongly influenced by recent incidents that have shaken the community’s sense of safety in the schools. In an obvious example of the urgency, a 17-year-old student was found in possession of a firearm, tucked in his

belt, on the first day of summer school at Central High School in July. Two months prior, in May, three teenagers boarded a PGCPS school bus and attempted to shoot a student onboard. The Board of Education’s May meeting came the following week and during the public comment section there were several calls to address school safety.

Martin Diggs, president of ACE-AFSCME 2250, which represents educational support personnel in PGCPS, said there was an “alarming pattern of inadequacies” in safety. “We said this was going to happen,” he said of the attempted murder. “Not enough is being done to keep our staff and our students safe. We have a duty to make sure that we make these places safe for everyone and they’re not safe.” “There’s a lot of people who are not feeling safe at their work locations,” he told the board. “We do not want the school yards to be the graveyard.” Phyllis Wright, Parent Teacher Organization president at William Hall Academy, said student and staff safety needed to be addressed and that they’d had several incidents at their school. “I’m hoping and praying this year, moving forward in September, that we will have metal detectors in not just high schools but in each and every one of our schools and even on the buses,” she told the board.

Detectors for ERHS

When detectors will arrive at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) remains unclear; the timeline has shifted but some statements claimed the machines should be in place at all high schools by the end of January.

Parents have already begun to show their hesitation about the installation. Randy Ontiveros, a parent of a student at ERHS, explained his dislike for the timing of the announcement. “It felt like it was announced in the middle of summer when no one was really paying attention. I don’t remember any discussion about a debate around this topic,” he says. “One of the dangers of weapons detectors is that it can give you an illusion

that you solved the problem and have done something to prevent the unimaginable, but the reality is, it takes more than weapons detectors to really get to the root of what causes this type of violence,” says Ontiveros.

Clear Backpacks

In addition to the weapon detectors being installed in schools, PGCPS has also introduced a clear backpack policy for high schools that went into effect this week. PGCPS will evaluate the policy for middle schoolers at the end of the first semester and communicate any additional changes before the end of winter break, they say.

Not everyone in the community is completely on board with the clear backpack policy. Kamya Tarver, a senior at Dr. Henry A. Wise where both the detectors and backpack policy will be active this fall, has mixed feelings toward privacy. “Girls ... have stuff that we need to take care of on our own, so it’s not like we want to walk around and have clear backpacks. A girl could walk around and have her stuff be seen and she might get bullied for that or get made fun of,” says Tarver, though the administration has approved small opaque pouches for personal items. “I also feel like we should be addressing the bigger issue ..., I feel like administration said ‘Here give them clear backpacks, that will fix everything,’ and thought that everything would be good.”

High schooler Noah Eubanks returned to ERHS for 11th grade on Monday and is carrying a clear backpack for the first time. However, he’s also taking with him a regular duffle bag with his cross-country gear. Some days he’ll be carrying a trombone in a large black case, too. The parent of another ERHS student said, “It seems so silly.” Her daughter donned a clear backpack for school, as required, but also carried her large, solid black sports gear bag for soccer. “I get that they are trying to keep our kids safe, and I appreciate it,” said the Greenbelt mom. “It just frustrates me that what we really need are sensible gun laws, not a bunch of clear backpacks.”



PHOTO BY KATERI BAKER

From left, Hannah (7th grade), Adelaide (3rd grade) and Levi (5th grade) on their first day back to Dora Kennedy French Immersion for the 2023-24 school year.



Nathaniel Moffett starts 2nd grade at Glenarden Woods Elementary School.

PHOTO BY LAUREN SILBERMAN

Ivory Coast Ambassador Adds Voice to Search for Missing Teacher

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On Monday, Dora Kennedy French Immersion School (DKFI) went back for the new school year without one of their third-grade teachers, who has been missing since July 29. On Sunday, they held a second meeting and vigil for Mariame Toure Sylla.

Ibrahima Toure, the Cote d'Ivoire's ambassador to the United States (no relation to Sylla), was at the school for the meeting. He expressed appreciation on behalf of the embassy and Ivorian community for those who attended and for their support.

Sylla's sister, Fati Toure, who had traveled to Greenbelt from the Ivory Coast, also thanked community members. She thanked, in particular, DKFI Vice Principal Sandrine Boukabara, for providing her with a place to sleep and for "caring about my suffering," as well as the teachers and parents who have helped search for her sister. "I'm obliged to go back [for] my family, my job, but I am grateful. I say thank you to everybody. I also know that everyone is doing their best to find Mariame. ... I'm sure she stays in life. So, I ask everybody to continue to pray for her so that we can see her very soon."

Mayor Emmett Jordan brought a message of support from the Greenbelt City Council "in the spirit of hope and perseverance," he said. Jordan said he was in communication with the Greenbelt Police Department who were "leaving no stone unturned and continue to focus on this and will follow up on every possible lead."

County Councilmember Ingrid Watson said she brought fervent prayers for the return of Madame Sylla. "To all of you, to her sister, I extend my love and support. I wrap my arms around you; I wrap my arms around this community," said Watson. "I just want you to know, our Lord, our God is good. He is going to bring her home safely and quickly," said Watson. "I continue to pray, and I know you all do. It's just so beautiful to see the students, the children, the parents and the love here today. Thank you all for being here and continue to pray for our sister's return."

"We are very sad," said the Imam from Sylla's mosque. "Inshallah we shall find her."

Some young students also expressed their sadness and hopes that the teacher will be found.

"I believe in a power of prayer," said Ms. Cole, an English teacher at the school. "Someone knows something about Madame Sylla," she said. "It is very impossible for anyone to disappear in thin air a few steps from her home," said Cole. "Post them everywhere you can that's legal," said Cole about the missing person flyers.

Prayers for Sylla's safety and return were offered in English and Arabic. The president of Reid Temple's missionary society said, "We'd love it if this type of attention would be for all of the missing folks not just this one ... we've got to be mindful that there's still several, even children missing,"



Ibrahima Toure, Côte d'Ivoire's ambassador to the United States, speaks to those gathered at Dora Kennedy French Immersion School on Sunday and leads a prayer in Arabic and English. The school's 3rd-grade teacher Mariame Toure Sylla, originally from the Ivory Coast, has been missing since July 29. Pictured from left are Mayor Emmett Jordan, Fati Toure (sister of Mariame Sylla), the ambassador, and Prince George's County Councilmember Ingrid Watson.



Several Dora Kennedy students spoke of their sadness and hopes for the teacher's return. Next to the student is Fati Toure, sister of missing teacher Mariame Toure Sylla, who thanked teachers, parents and the community for looking for her sister. On the other side of Toure is Sandrine Boukabara, vice principal of Dora Kennedy French Immersion School.

- Photos by Anna Bedford-Dillow



Missionaries from the Queen Jefferson Women's Missionary Society at the Reid Temple African Methodist Episcopal Church offer support and prayer.

she said.

Another friend of the family asked the community to be respectful and to "refrain from being judgmental" about Sylla's son, who was recently arrested on unrelated charges. "The family has been hearing all types of bad things about him ... This family has been hit really hard so let's be respectful," she said. "Everybody deserves a second chance. We all make mistakes

Ukraine Native Draws Large Audience with his History

by Donna Hoffmeister

Peter Voitsekhovsky, a native Ukrainian and longtime Greenbelt resident, captivated a large audience with his compelling presentation Sunday, July 30 at the Community Center. Having grown up in Ukraine during the Soviet regime, his personal journey and the transformational shift that occurred with the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991 served as focal points of his talk. The profound impact of this historical event on his outlook and that of others was a core theme he sought to convey to his audience.

Contrasting his experiences with those of President Volodymyr Zelensky, who was only 13 years old in 1991 and therefore did not fully grasp the ramifications of the Soviet political system at the time, Voitsekhovsky highlighted how distinct generations in Ukraine had diverse encounters with history. This provided a thought-provoking perspective on the complex socio-political changes the nation underwent.

During his presentation, Voitsekhovsky shared insights from the books he brought along, recommending them to his audience.

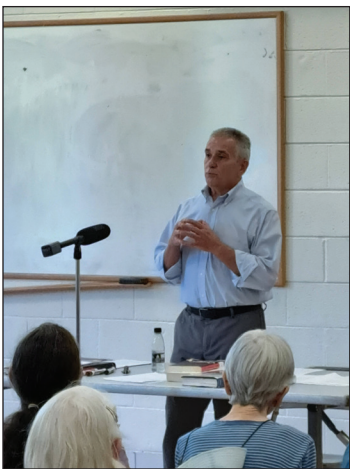


PHOTO BY JOE ROBBINS

Peter Voitsekhovsky explains Ukraine to an audience at the Community Center.

These books acted as a gateway for further exploration into the nuances of the 1990s and early 2000s, the periods he focused on during his talk.

Due to the overwhelming response, there will be a follow-up talk, where Voitsekhovsky will delve into Ukraine's current war and the shared experiences of a nation under attack. Attendees will have the chance to ask questions. It promises to be a good opportunity to learn more about Ukraine.



PHOTO BY RACHEL CHANNON

Hibiscus blooms in one of the allotment gardens.

The University of Maryland's Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy, in partnership with the State of Maryland, is looking for volunteers age 50+ to serve as volunteer legislative leaders during the 2023-2024 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly.

The nine week classroom training (two days per week) begins on Tuesday September 19, 2023 and ends on Tuesday December 5, 2023. Classes will be held at the University of Maryland Extension 4H Center, 8020 Greenmead Drive, College Park, Maryland 20749.

The volunteer assignment will be in the legislative offices of members of the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis. Participants will serve a minimum of two (2) days per week starting Wednesday, January 10, 2024 and ending on Monday, April 8, 2024.

For more information or an application, contact Wesley Queen at wqueen@umd.edu.

It Takes a Village to Plan The Labor Day Festival

by Elizabeth Tobey

Throughout the U.S., Labor Day weekend signals the end of summer. However, here in Greenbelt, it marks the 69th renewal of the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival. Greenbelters eagerly await the magical transformation of Roosevelt Center and its parking lots into a lively midway packed with carnival games, food and rides, including the Ferris wheel that allows bird's-eye views of the city.

First held in 1955 to raise money for the building of a Youth Center, the Festival has recurred annually with the exception of 2020, when it was canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic, although some activities were moved online. The Festival returned in 2021 (minus the carnival rides and midway) but came back in its full form in 2022. "We surpassed the pre-pandemic numbers last year and we are anticipating more people this year," comments Donna Peterson, member of the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee.

The Committee starts planning each year's Festival in January. "We start meeting once a month in January and continue until July when we go twice a month, then in August it's every week," says Peterson. Likewise, the City of Greenbelt Public Works Department starts its planning far in advance. "We start planning all year long, throughout the whole spring and summer," commented Joe Mulhare of Public Works.

The Festival requires an entire work week and many participants to set up. "Greenbelt Public Works is the backbone of the Festival," explains Peterson. On Monday morning, "they start with setting up the booths, arranging the lighting and electricity. They assist in every aspect of getting ready." According to Mulhare, Public Works starts building the booths and arranging the banners

and signs three weeks in advance so that they will be ready to install during Festival week. Rosedale Attractions begins assembling the carnival rides on Tuesday.

Mulhare added that eight employees from the Public Works Streets Maintenance Division organize the main setup for the Festival, such as placing barrels and jersey walls. The city's electrician crew wires the booths. The horticultural team puts out bee traps and hooks up the water supply and irrigation needed for the Festival to run smoothly.

Because parking in Old Greenbelt is limited during the Festival, organizers have provided a free shuttle bus service to Roosevelt Center and encourage visitors to park at one of the parking areas adjacent to the bus stops. Bus Route 1 stops at Greenbelt Elementary School, Green Ridge House and Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Route 2 stops at Greenbelt Elementary School, Springhill Lake Recreation Center, Greenbelt Metro Kiss and Ride and Greenbelt Station townhouses. Buses will depart every 45 minutes and will operate between 6 to 10 p.m. on Friday; between 3 and 10 p.m. on Saturday; 3 to 10 p.m. on Sunday; and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday. A full schedule of events appeared in last week's issue of the Greenbelt News Review and is available online at greenbeltlaborday.com.

Even though the Festival ends on Monday, in just a few months, the Festival Committee will renew planning for the 2024 event. "We are a great group but we need more help," says Peterson. Those interested in helping to envision next year's Festival can contact the committee at greenbeltlaborday@gmail.com.

FESTIVAL continued from page 1

undoubtedly not to be missed. On Braden Field at 10:30 a.m. T-Ball is available for all ages and at 1 p.m., there's a cornhole tournament (12 years and older). Other kid-oriented activities take place in the Youth Center throughout the day. Check out children's Bingo at 1 p.m. and the table tennis tournament (17 years and older) at 2 p.m.

For the Afficionados

For those of more aesthetic leanings, the craft fair is in Roosevelt Center Sunday and Monday with local artists displaying their hand-made items from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday and noon to 6 p.m. on Monday. Or join others at Who We Are: Making Connections, a participatory community art project on the Festival grounds. Use yarn to mark your choices and help weave a tapestry representing the community.

Sunday afternoon is rich in treasure. The Retro Town Fair winners are displayed from 1 to 4 p.m. on the grounds of the Museum. The Museum itself is open from 1 to 5 p.m. There are ribbons to be won for flowers, veggies, baked and canned goods and needlework. (Entries are accepted from 10 to 11:30 a.m.) The Art and Photo show runs Sunday from 1 to 6 p.m. and Monday from noon to 4 p.m. in the Community Center gym.

And for Music Fans

The stage starts up at noon Sunday with Greenbelt's own Honk! Situation, a community street band in rainbow tie dyes delivering a fun, high-energy scene wherever they go. It brings together brass and drum players of all ability levels and experience to play New Orleans standards, pop and rock favorites.

Downtown Tumbao, forged in Mexico City and now transplanted to Baltimore, plays from 2 to 4 p.m. The band's sound is one of the borderlands that merge Afro-Caribbean beats spanning Latin American styles and rhythms. From 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., the Rising Stars perform. And for those who like to dance, The Nowhere Men will get everyone up on their feet from 8 to 11 p.m. with that Motown sound with hits from The Temptations to Stevie Wonder, The Four Tops and Earth, Wind & Fire.

Monday showcases Fast Eddie and the Slowpokes from 3 to 6 p.m. with classic blues and rock 'n' roll from Chicago to West



PHOTO BY PETER TEUBEN

Great fun at the rides at the 2022 Labor Day Festival



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

Ian Blackwell Rogers helps prepare the community art project which will take place on Sunday afternoon at the Festival.

Coast Swing, Motown to Muscle Shoals.

Food and Fun

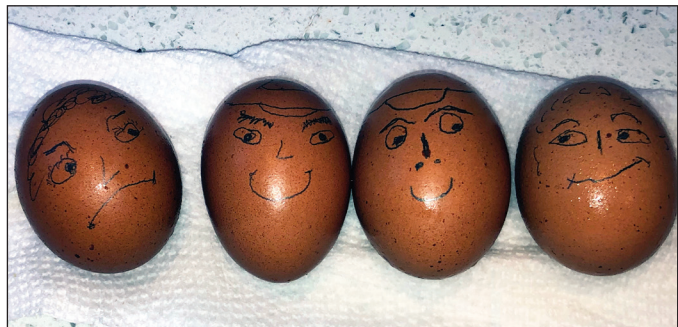
From noon to 10 p.m. on Sunday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday, the carnival and booths are going full swing – rides, games, food and fun. If you want to put your feet up constructively, head for Bingo (benefitting Greenbelt Youth Baseball) at the picnic tables.

Celebration meals are available Monday with Luncheon on the Lawn at the Greenbelt Community Church starting after the parade. It's a classic barbecue with the trimmings and dessert. Later, from 3 to 7 p.m., at the Greenbelt American Legion, the annual Family Picnic is in full swing. Fun and food for all.



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Eggzactly!

PHOTO BY CATHIE MEETRE


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PRELIMINARY AGENDA
Meetings of the GHI Board of Directors on
September 7, 2023

GHI Closed Meeting – starts at 7:00 p.m. - closed to members and visitors

- a) Approve Minutes of the Closed Meeting Held on June 15, 2023
- b) Member Financial Matters
- c) Member Complaint Matters

GDC Closed Meeting – starts after the GHI Closed Meeting ends - closed to members and visitors

- a) Survey of GDC Plumbing and HVAC systems – single reading

GHI Open Meeting – starts at 7:45 p.m. - open to members and visitors

- a) Statement of a Closed Meeting Held on September 7, 2023
- b) Approval of Addendum for Trust Ownership and Trustee's Affidavit for three units
- c) Approve Minutes of the Open Meeting Held on June 15, 2023
- d) Review of Second Quarter Financial Statements
- e) Corporate Credit Card Authorization
- f) Finance Committee Recommendation for GHI & GDC Boards
- g) Review of GHI Drug and Alcohol Policy
- h) Discussion Concerning In-person or Virtual Meetings

Members and visitors who wish to attend the Open meetings must register in advance via the following link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZAtcu6srTwwH9NVcuU07UapG_xv449g-NGx

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

A Review

Gifted Insight: Modern Version Of Midsummer Night’s Dream

by Melanie Iversen

Thanks to the pandemic, this work of art has been on hold for three years. Thanks, Covid. At long last, we are able to experience the gifted insight that came together this weekend at the Greenbelt Arts Center.

A story within a story from Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream, this play was refreshing to enjoy on a hot summer’s day. Shakespeare and Tolkien both shared a fondness for presenting elves and fairies in conflicting roles, depending on the work. This play gives us ornery and ominous creatures with magical powers. A love potion, flowers and herbs that misfire their intentions add humor and confusion to the tale.

The story itself is as modern as can be. Demetrius convinces Hermia to ditch boyfriend Lysander and they go off together, with Helena running along behind chasing after her own crush, Demetrius, who is oblivious to her intentions, considering her silly. Helena is determined to tell Lysander, and fantasizes that the news will be so important to Lysander that he will be grateful to her forever. If Hermia were claimed again by her dumped beloved, Demetrius would of course, suddenly be in love extraordinary with Helena. If only. In the midst of a “Who’s on first” whirlwind, we are brought into modern times with an overzealous group of amateur actors who decide to rehearse in the forest. (Enter the Rude Mechanicals!) This forest is full of elves, and the fairy Puck, who summons Titania and Oberon, who are arguing over who should claim ownership of a human child they hope will wreak havoc on the human world. The amateur actors become fairies, thanks to Puck, and they embrace the experience.

The plot is full of envy, chaos, confusion, humor and magic gone awry. Enter the magic flower that contains the love factor.

Here’s where “Who’s on first” comes in. A loved B, who dropped C, and D came running after A, but hoped D could get in the mix, and then Boom! Love! Is it A and B or A and C and where is D? These other two characters fall into the Love flower, somehow everyone is everywhere, and then, here come the Fairy Elves, glowing in the dark. Yes, glowing.

Not to spoil the fun, eventually the world set itself right and we all exhaled and laughed. If you have or ever had teenagers or ever were one, this story line should seem as simple and smooth as a cola icee. In short, the 90-minute adventure was delightful.

The actors clearly enjoyed their parts and the sets that stayed subtly in motion (the forest in particular) absolutely helped the audience engage with the storyline. The actors used creative body language that totally offset the potential confusion of Shakespeare’s language. I think the dialogue was icing on the cake.

If you had been waiting for this performance to surface, take a breath. It’s here and worth the



Aparna Sri (Titania), left, and Claudia Bach (Oberon) in Ill Met by Moonlight at Greenbelt Arts Center



Wes Dennis as Puck



Peri Walker as Hermia and Stephen Duda as Starveling

wait.

Ill Met by Moonlight runs through Saturday, September 9. For tickets and more information, visit greenbeltartscenter.org.

- Photos by Rachel Zirkin Duda

Referendum Proposed Over Voting by Non-U.S. Citizens

by Diane Oberg

Much of the August 14 meeting of the Greenbelt City Council served as a preview of coming events: council introduced a resolution for first reading that would place a referendum on the November ballot on the question of whether to allow voting by noncitizens in city elections, received reports proposing additional future changes to election procedures, received notice that the city will be taking actions to combat the increased amount of dumping at Northway fields, and that Pepco will soon be trimming/removing city trees near power lines. Council also approved a resolution increasing pass fees at the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center.

Election Changes

If the proposed resolution passes, voters in the November elections will be asked “Should Greenbelt residents who meet residency requirements but are not U.S. citizens be allowed to vote in city elections?” As usual for first readings, there was no discussion of this resolution at the meeting.

The resolution is expected to be introduced for second reading and possible adoption at the Monday, September 11 council meeting.

The Board of Elections has two other reports outstanding. The first, dated July 6, would allow voters who are “continuously outside the city” during the 30-day period before election day to apply for mail-in ballots by facsimile or email. Currently, only voters outside the continental U.S can do this. Steve Gilbert, co-chair of the board, said this change should be considered for the 2025 elections as it would require changes in the city code and needs review by the city’s legal counsel.

At this meeting, council accepted a new report from the board outlining proposed changes to the policy for initiation of electoral campaigns. These changes include not permitting candidates to canvass, advertise or fundraise until their nomination petitions have been filed with the city clerk, requiring that the campaign’s bank account has been established and a treasurer has been appointed by the time a nomination petition is filed. These changes, if approved, would not affect the 2023 election.

Northway Fields

Interim City Manager Timothy George told council that

illegal dumping has increased at Northway Fields. The dumped items include tires and construction debris. Public Works, he said, will install cameras so the city can identify and fine those responsible. Staff is also considering installing a gate to restrict access to the site where dumping is occurring.

There is a \$1,000 fine for illegal dumping, he noted.

Pool Fees

Council unanimously approved (6 to 0 with Councilmember Silke Pope absent) a resolution implementing the Aquatic & Fitness Center pass rate increases incorporated in the adopted Fiscal Year 24 budget. All pass fees will increase 5 percent. Daily admission fees will increase 25 cents per day for residents and 50 cents for non-residents.

Pepco Plan

On a 5 to 1 vote with Councilmember Rodney Roberts opposed, council approved Pepco’s vegetation management plan incorporating the changes requested by the Public Works Department. Pepco originally proposed removing 124 trees. Of these, the horticulturist staff denied 34, leaving 90 trees proposed for removal. Of these, 50 trees were identified as dead, hazardous or in severe decline. Pepco will replace the removed trees on a one-to-one basis using a city-approved list of trees suitable for planting under power lines. The plan also calls for tree pruning. Staff will work closely with the contractor to ensure compliance with city standards for pruning, such as no pruning above the power lines if there is adequate clearance and no “walling.”

Other Actions

A resolution authorizing the negotiated purchase of certain goods and services from various vendors when total fiscal year purchases from each vendor exceed \$10,000. The products and services involved cover a broad range of offerings from office supplies and paint to software to engineering services. The full list is available in the agenda packet. The resolution will likely be introduced for second reading and adoption at the next regular meeting.

Council approved on a 5 to 1 vote, with Roberts opposed, the Forest Preserve Advisory Board’s request to direct Public Works to clear a path in the Greenbriar tract that is currently blocked by two fallen trees.





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Greenbelt Homes Blueprints Are Now Available Online

by Andrea Castillo

The Prince George’s County Memorial Library System’s (PGCMLS) Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Blueprint Collection is now available online. The newly digitized collection, scanned in cooperation with the Maryland Archives from the original microfilm held by PGCMLS, includes more than 3,000 images of blueprints and other documents, dated between 1936 and 1938, for many of the original homes built in the core of historic Greenbelt as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal program.

“Paramount to our mission, with this project PGCMLS reaffirms our commitment to the preservation of local history,” said Blane Halliday, director for collection strategies for PGCMLS. “The digitization of these reels of microfilm represents one of the Library’s first attempts at making our collections more readily available to the public beyond the four walls of our branches. PGCMLS is thrilled to

have been given the opportunity to make these historic images more accessible to the local community, as well as researchers from around the country and the world.”

The blueprints are part of the Library’s larger Tugwell Special Collection, with most of its physical items housed inside of the Greenbelt Library. The collection provides materials for researchers of all ages interested in city and urban planning, sociology, architecture, American history of the New Deal era, consumer cooperatives and the City of Greenbelt. The collection is named for Rexford G. Tugwell, who created and developed the New Deal-era Greenbelt Towns project during his time as the head of the Resettlement Administration. The digital blueprints, which are posted on the Internet Archive, can be accessed from links on the Tugwell Room webpage, pgcmls.info/tugwell-room.



A green sweat bee gets first dibs on a newly-opened sunflower.

PHOTO BY RAVEN HOLM

GATe’s McFarb Steps Down, Passes the Reins on to Tilert

by Frank Gervasi

Greenbelt Access Television’s (GATe) Phoebe McFarb is resigning as chief executive officer (CEO) and expanding her horizons. She is leaving Greenbelt with her new husband Stavros later this month. The couple will be moving to New Jersey where Stavros landed a job in his field of mathematics.

During their very busy week of April 15, Stavros received his Ph.D. on Tuesday and they wed on Saturday. She also managed to come to work every day and got their taxes paid.

McFarb, a lifelong Greenbelt resident, has worked at GATe for six years, progressing from trainee assistant to station manager to CEO.

She has done a fabulous job with all the many roles needed to expertly run the local TV station. Those tasks include: filmmaking, editing, teaching students these skills, bookkeeping, bill paying, programming station content, equipment ordering, interviewing and hiring both employees and interns and working with a varying board of directors, the public and city officials. McFarb has



PHOTO BY FRANK GERVASI

New GATe CEO Sheila Tilert, left, and her predecessor Phoebe McFarb

consistently done her many jobs proactively, cheerfully, enthusiastically and professionally.

Moreover, at the start of this year, she advertised for a suitable replacement to lead GATe. She found one in Sheila Tilert, hired her in February and began training her for the CEO’s many tasks. Tilert is doing a fine job and GATe is grateful to have her

running the show, say station staff members.

McFarb will continue to edit film, and may seek work at a Public Access TV station in the greater New York area. The PEG (Public Access, Education, Government) industry is especially strong in that part of the country, where it started in the late 1960s.

Donate Sneakers For People in Need

Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ (GCC) is collecting athletic shoes by partnering with GotSneakers. This sneaker recycling program helps to keep sneakers out of landfills, where they have harmful effects on the environment.

A donation box is located outside the Fellowship Center (the small building behind the church) for people to drop off sneakers at any time.

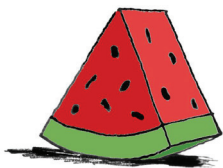
GORDON continued from page 1

Governor Wes Moore and Maryland Comptroller Brooke Lierman.

Gordon is a published author of three books of poetry, is an active member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and Prince Hall Freemason of Warren Lodge #8. Gordon resides in the Franklin Park community in Greenbelt West. He and his wife Carla, whom he met and married in Greenbelt, have four grown children and six grandchildren. Gordon is currently employed at the U.S. Department of Transportation under the National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration as a government contractor. He will be completing a certification from the University of Maryland Public Policy Academy of Excellence in Local Governance the fall of 2023.

Toastmasters Meet

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club invites all to join them online every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The club provides a fun and friendly environment for anyone interested in improving their public speaking and leadership skills. Learn more at greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org.



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Theater Hosts Two-day Free Film Digitization Workshop

by Caitlin McGrath



Skip Elsheimer, the founder of A/V Geeks, left, works at the recent digitization workshop with Caitlin McGrath, executive director of Old Greenbelt Theatre, right, and a workshop participant.

Recently the Old Greenbelt Theatre (OGT) hosted a two-day digitization workshop led by the A/V Geeks Skip Elsheimer and Katrina Lamberto, who drove all their equipment from their base in Raleigh, N.C. Over 40 people attended the AV-RV Film Digitization event, which enabled viewing and transferring of 8 mm, 16 mm, VHS and other video formats to a more readily accessible digital file.

This free service was funded by the Maryland State Community Investment Tax Credit grant program. This is the second time the A/V Geeks have traveled to Greenbelt, first visiting in 2018. After such a successful weekend, OGT is looking forward to welcoming Elsheimer and Lamberto back again in the next year or two.



Chuck Howell, left, a University of Maryland librarian and volunteer for the day, works with Amy Knesel, Old Greenbelt Theatre office manager, at the AV-RV Digitization event.

- Photos by Michael G. Stewart

Greenbelt Arts Advisory To Meet September 5

The Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board will meet on Tuesday, September 5 at 7 p.m. on Zoom. Greenbelt residents who may be interested in joining the board are encouraged to attend. The board will discuss marketing and grant-writing resources for local artists and the Arts Open House that will be held on October 1. For more information and to obtain the Zoom link, write to alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov.

Chess Club Meets

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Monday, September 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the New Deal Café. The group meets on the second, third and fourth Mondays of each month.

This group is for all ages and skill levels. For more information, call Effie at 443-415-1053.



GHI and City Talk Lighting And Cell Coverage and More

by Alex Barnes

The Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) Board of Directors recently presented council with eight items to discuss, five of which were discussed at last year’s council GHI worksession (see August 11, 2022, issue). Returning topics were flooding near 1 Court Gardenway (see the August 17, 2023 issue), lighting the walkway between 11 and 13 Ridge and cellphone coverage. The new items were playgrounds, legislation and GHI’s historical records. Mayor Emmett Jordan said that GHI, “the cooperative that manages the original section of Greenbelt [is] at the very core of [Greenbelt’s] history.”

Legislation

GHI requested that the city’s proposed new legislative support coordinator notify GHI and other community associations of legislative bills (federal, state, county and municipal) which may impact them. In its letter to the city, GHI stated that community associations are often unaware of legislative bills that affect them until after they have been enacted. Jordan, Councilmember Judith Davis and GHI President Stefan Brodd all commented that county legislation moves especially fast. One example highlighted was CB007 (Rent Stabilization Act of 2023) that passed before GHI was aware of it and which, according to Brodd, would have severely impacted all [housing] cooperatives in the county had it not been amended to exempt them. The county legislature has a Commission on Common Ownership Communities on which Brodd said GHI would like to seek representation.

Lighting

In 2017, city staff surveyed neighboring residents for their opinion about pathway lighting in the city park between Courts 11 and 13 Ridge. Brodd said that there is a lot of foot traffic from the apartments through this area, so he surmised that GHI members who live there would feel more secure if the area were lit. At council’s request in 2019, GHI surveyed those and additional residents in Courts 14 and 16 Ridge and 8 and 10 Southway about their interest in having lights installed. Of the 114 homes asked, 28 (about 25 percent) replied yes that light fixtures should be installed. Interim City Manager Tim George said the quote to install the fixtures and connect to power is “just south of \$20,000.” Davis said next steps are to allocate funds (she was confident that funds could be found) and hold a worksession to discuss the details of the lighting.

Playgrounds

Brodd said that GHI has “great difficulty obtaining property insurance, and at great ex-

pense.” GHI’s insurance provider made a list of things GHI could do to have “better luck at getting lower cost insurance.” On that list was the surface of some of its playgrounds. The city maintains seven of these playgrounds (GHI pays 25 percent of the cost of improvements). Per GHI’s request, the city improved surfaces to the playgrounds noted by the risk assessment. The city inspects playgrounds every three months and is not aware of any accidents having occurred on GHI playgrounds over the past five years.

Cellphone Coverage

In its letter, GHI asked what measures council could take to ensure that there is adequate cellphone reception throughout the city, because in some areas within GHI and Old Greenbelt some cellphones cannot be used to make emergency 911 or 988 calls. Jordan said, “Maybe the most effective thing that we can do is for individuals living in [areas with weak cellphone signals] is to put together a petition,” with their names and give it to council to forward to a provider. Jordan also brought up that they are “very sensitive” to the location of antennas and some residents are passionately against cellphone towers. Davis said that the city has been looking into broadband and that small cell antennas “are coming.”

Historical Records

GHI is exploring options for storing many of its historical records, which GHI’s Records Retention Task Force stated should be stored in an institutional archive. The cooperative wondered if the city would be willing to store these documents in the Greenbelt Museum. George said that Greenbelt Museum Director Megan Searing Young would be thrilled to examine GHI’s historical records, and that she could help GHI evaluate them. He also noted that the most effective method to make them available long-term was to scan them for electronic accessibility.

Electric Vehicles

GHI Vice President Debbie McKinley explained to the city that GHI is increasing the availability of electric charging stations in the community in addition to having already (in coordination with the city) authorized 10 stations requested by individuals. Potential options for community charging stations include GHI garage blocks or large courts. Drawbacks include the fact that garages aren’t currently wired and that parking spaces needed for chargers are at a premium.

Grants

GHI Board Member Paul Kaffer reminded the group of the anticipated federal infrastructure

bill but Davis pointed out that it was better suited as a vehicle for much larger cities with the bureaucracy to apply for and manage complex federal funding requirements.

At the request of McKinley, Jordan requested staff to look at a \$75,000 grant application to the Chesapeake Bay Trust for a resiliency study, but he thought it had not been funded.

To smiles from the audience, Jordan emphasized that GHI should seek any relevant funding from American Rescue Plan Act grant options available from the city, noting how little he wanted to give any money back to the federal government.

In closing, Jordan and the other participants reiterated their commitment to the welfare of the city and GHI going forward.

Senior Nutrition Program Luncheon

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunch for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at 11 a.m. Meals must be reserved one week ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208 ext. 4215.

Two menu options, one vegetarian, will be offered for each luncheon. All meals, which provide at least one-third of Recommended Dietary Allowances for older adults, include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk.

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NEW DEAL continued from page 1

“The Co-op board and management would like to keep the operation going as we think it’s of great benefit to the Center but we need to reckon with the financial aspects of the project. Co-op can’t lose money any longer on the NDC project and we need to begin to recoup some loss with profitability. So far, we’ve had two positive quarters but only a bit above break-even. If Co-op were continuing to pay the rent (as we did for the first 20+ months) we would have lost money in those two quarters.”

Losses Pile Up

In 2021, Covid was still in full swing, hitting restaurant revenue much harder than either NDC or Co-op anticipated. Both Jones and Gillotte explained that over the last two years, Co-op has lost approximately \$200,000 solely on the Café operations. As a result, reiterated Treasurer Dorian Winterfeld, NDC got no shared profit during that time (though they also didn’t have to share the loss) and is eking out grants and other support to stay afloat. In June this year, the Co-op negotiated for NDC to pay the \$4K+ rent.

Upside Down

Already spending more than it was taking in, the NDC’s June-onward additional rent expense plus the cost for licenses and performance fees is now rapidly whittling away its already limited funds (about \$40K in cash reserves) to the point that without an infusion of new money, it will have no cash remaining by early 2024. NDC also has about \$165K in long-term debt most of which can be paid off slowly, so this is not pressing. NDC’s board has high hopes of a \$30K grant applied from city American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds due to be announced in September and to be disbursed late in 2023.

Revenue

Winterfeld’s oft-repeated mantra was that NDC needed to sell more, but as several audience members pointed out, Winterfeld and the board had presented no plan for how this might be accomplished. President Michael Hartman pointed hopefully at the new NDC tote bag. Winterfeld did not present a financial statement as such, but greeted positively a suggestion from NDC member Lore Rosenthal that perhaps month-by-month tracking might be useful in seeing if targets were being met and where the expenses could be better managed. A similar suggestion of a budget and monthly reporting was greeted by him as perhaps a good idea.

This is far from the first time the NDC’s vendor arrangements have hit trouble. Preceding vendors in recent years who left for one reason or another have included a vegan vendor, a Middle-Eastern themed vendor and NDC’s attempts to run the restaurant itself.

What to Do?

In the absence of a plan presented by the board, two ideas seemed to resonate with the audience. One was that NDC had to operate more like an effective business if it is to survive. The other, not entirely unrelated, is that it had to operate more like an effective charity and raise money and pursue grants systematically to survive. Ideas from the audience included considering cover charges, tickets for events,

sponsored dinners and sustained giving programs. This last, suggested by former board member Peter May, seemed to result in a committee formed on the spot, ready to go.

Tide Turning?

Gillotte reported that the financial issues, though certainly not solved, were at least looking a little more positive and he felt that profitability was attainable with the current arrangement within the next several months. He cited increased staffing stability and some economies in staffing (a major cost area) all of which were contributing to a steadier revenue level. Responding to menu suggestions from Meg Haney, board president of Friends of New Deal Café Arts, Gillotte explained that changing the menu was difficult when staffing was unstable because of training that had to be repeated each time new staff came on. With increasing staff stability at what Gillotte repeatedly described as “livable wages” new menu items could be more easily implemented.

Patterns of Sale

Gillotte and Katy Gaughan, an active NDC member and drum circle event leader, both spoke of the level of sales. Gillotte noted that surprisingly few items are ordered in the last few hours of the evening, even on weekends. Gaughan demonstrated balletically how the basic level of revenue went up considerably when there was programming going on – but rose even more dramatically when there was a festival-type event. She said that to be profitable, the Café had to sustain a customer level that was more like the average for an event or festival.

One enterprising attendee surveyed the front room area where chess and card games were in progress. Reporting back, he said that at around 7 p.m., prime dinner time, all the tables were full of players, but only a few tables actually had food or drink with the cards and chessboards. There was no room for diners.

Programming

Arts Director Caitlin Gompf reported on the numerous successful events: both regular music programming and festival-type activities. As in previous years, the Café had received accolades from regional organizations. She also noted that the events were also highly correlated with sales. The crowd expressed its support of and delight in the programming with spontaneous applause and it was clearly the most successful and optimistic item on the agenda.

Children’s Area

A small children’s area recently set up in the front room area came under discussion and the consensus was to keep it in place for the time being.

At the Library

The Greenbelt Library will be closed Sunday, September 3, and Monday, September 4, for the Labor Day holiday and will reopen on Tuesday, September 5, at noon. Regular hours at the Greenbelt Library are Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. In case of inclement weather or an emergency, real-time updates to the Library’s schedule are posted at pgcmlls.info/alerts.

Storytimes

Friday, September 1, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmlls.info/event/8723443.

Wednesday, September 6, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmlls.info/event/8723484.

Books at Bedtime

Wednesday, September 6, 6:30 p.m., ages newborn to 3. Stories, music, and activities for children with and without special needs. Presented by the PGCPs Infants and Toddlers Program for up to 12 community families. Register at pgcmlls.info/event/8699987.

Ride and Read

Thursday, September 7, 11 a.m., ages 18+. Get some physical activity in while you’re at the library. Sign up for an hour ride on one of our stationary bikes with great free apps like Libby, Kanopy and Freegal to enjoy while working out. Participants must be 16 or older, sign a waiver before beginning to ride and wear loose-fitting clothing and closed-toed shoes.

The program will initially be held in the Library meeting room which is also used for other events, so the bikes will not be permanently available at this time. The program is currently designed for customers to use the bikes during designated program times. Space is limited. Register at pgcmlls.info/event/8707222.

News Suite

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Register for Monthly Free Produce

Starting September 21, all recipients of the free produce distribution will need to have a card to participate. How can people get a card? Attend one of the events below to pick up a card:

Wednesday, September 6, noon to 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Ground Floor East;

Thursday, September 7, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Ground Floor East.

For questions or more information, email Katherine Farzin at kfarzin@greenbeltmd.gov.

Water Main Break Complicates Roadwork on Hillside Road

by Cathie Meetre



A big hole and warning cones mark the water main break at Hillside and Laurel Hill Roads.

- Photos by Cathie Meetre

A water main break disrupted traffic and resulted in a big hole in the ground, about 12-foot square and perhaps 8-foot deep at the intersection of Laurel Hill Road and Hillside Road early on Monday morning, August 28. According to the WSSC foreman, the break was probably coincidental to the repaving and sidewalk/curb renewal in progress along Hillside – not a result of it.

The water main running down Laurel Hill was repaired the same afternoon. The complete job needed in order to restore water service to courts on the lower side of Hillside, however, required additional excavation across the full width of Hillside

close to the intersection.

At the time the photos were taken (4 p.m. Monday) the foreman was expecting additional equipment to do the remaining digging and filling. He expected the area to be drivable by late Monday evening or the early hours of Tuesday, August 29.

As of Monday afternoon, the street as a whole was almost ready to be repaved, with curbs and sidewalks done and painted and all the old asphalt scraped off and piled up to be trucked away. Crews had been out for several days working diligently, doing the sidewalks first and then removing the old road surface.



Newly minted sidewalks are ready for the new road surface across from the water main break at Hillside and Laurel Hill.

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BOXED: \$10.60/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15.90). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

OVERPAYMENTS: To properly account for overpayments too small to warrant refunding, the News Review accumulates overpayments of less than \$1.00 and periodically contributes the funds to a registered charity. Once the office reopens, this policy will not apply to payments made in person.

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

AD DESK: 301-474-4131 or ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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FOR SALE

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YOUR HOUSE HERE GREENBELT GET THE BEST PRICE LOCAL EXPERIENCE	UNDER CONTRACT 53 D Ridge \$264,900 Under Contract in 4 days! 3 Bedroom / 2 Bath	SOLD 5804 84th Ave. \$399,900 3 Bedroom/ 2 Bath RETRO DETAILS	ACTIVE 8-B Plateau PL \$193,000 2 Bedroom/ 1 Bath GHI/OPEN KITCHEN

301.441.1071 #1 in Sales for Greenbelt in '19, '20, '21 & 2022

Greenbelters Travel



PHOTO COURTESY NATALIE BAILEY AND SARA MAZURSKY

In August Greenbelters Natalie Bailey, left, and Sara Mazursky traveled separately to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. There they found they were staying on the same floor of the same hotel and got together to read news of home in the News Review online.



PHOTO COURTESY THE MILLERS

Barry, Danielle and Sharon Miller took the News Review along with them as they traveled to Stirling, Scotland, to visit relatives in July 2023.



PHOTO COURTESY JOE ROBBINS

Joe Robbins reads the News Review in Stone Harbor, New Jersey.

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Sports

ERHS Girls Volleyball Team Prepares for Season Opener

by Scott Fifield



PHOTO BY KENNETH BLACKS

Right-side hitter Alexis Badu (8) soars above the Elizabeth Seton block in a recent scrimmage while Kaniece Wright (4) prepares to cover the hit.

The Eleanor Roosevelt High School volleyball team is preparing for its September 6 season opener. This year's team appears to be stronger than the 2022 team that finished 10-6 and lost in the regional semifinals. A couple of returning players have moved to new positions this fall which will hopefully diversify the Raider attack. Junior co-captain Alexis Badu will hit from the right side this season and has shown a powerful hit during practice, both from the front row and the back. Junior Daja Warren has moved to the outside hitter position allowing her to be set more often than she was as a middle hitter.

Junior co-captain Kaniece Wright remains an outside hit-

ter and will also be one of the team's primary defenders. Senior libero Aaliyna Patel will provide both defense and aggressive serving. Senior Aniya Kittles will set for the Raiders this season and she has shown the ability to find her hitters and to generate offense.

The early schedule is tough with the Wednesday, September 6 opener (at home) against Mount de Sales (a Baltimore-area power), and the annual match against Bowie (also at home) on Wednesday, September 13. Purchase tickets at ticketspick.com and come support the Raiders.

Call for Sports News

Do you have Greenbelt sports news to share? We welcome your photos and stories at editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Auto Auction

Location – 4E JP Morgan Court, Waldorf Md.20601
Time:10 am-11:30 AM
Date: 8/31 – 9/15, 2023
1974 CHEVROLET IMPALA 1N39R4Y159827
2019 TOYOTA YARIS 3MYDLBYVOK522738

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PHONE 301-448-8703

HAPPY LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 4, 2023

Your hard work is greatly appreciated!



MELANIE CANTWELL
— Long and Foster Real Estate —

Melanie Cantwell, Realtor MD & DC
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Cell: 240-470-5911 / Office: 301-441-9511
Melanie.Cantwell@LNF.com
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